

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

GRANDSTAFF 

ROKOSCH 

THOMPSON 

CHILCOTT 

DRISCOLL 

Present.....Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff,
Commissioner Jim Rokosch, Commissioner Greg Chilcott and Commissioner Kathleen
Driscoll

Date.....November 10, 2008

Minutes: Beth Perkins

► The Board met for the first reading of Ordinance No. 17 - Establishing Impact Fees. Chairman of the Impact Advisory Fee Committee John Meakin, Planning Board member Chip Pigman and Administrative Assistant Glenda Wiles were present.

Commissioner Grandstaff called the meeting to order. She gave a brief overview of the last meeting and stated this will be the first reading of Ordinance No. 17. She stated there was comment received from John Horat via email and read it to the Board along with comments received from Civil Counsel Karen Mahar.

Commissioner Rokosch stated with comments to Section 3, he would support a language change to reflect the entire MCA statute. He stated the rest should stand as is. John suggested in the third line of section 3, adding "and imposed" and including MCA 1601-1604. The Board concurred.

Commissioner Grandstaff opened public comment.

Chip Pigman asked about the process to establish impact fees. Commissioner Chilcott stated the process will be going to the Impact Fee Advisory Committee and they make their recommendations and findings and then go before the Board of County Commissioners in a public hearing. John added each district will have to go before the Board to establish fees. Administrative Assistant Glenda Wiles asked about the timeline for the fees. John replied they would need to be renewed every two years. Chip then asked why an ordinance was needed. Commissioner Rokosch stated the need is to have an ordinance in place prior to setting fees. It is an attempt to clarify the understanding of implementing the MCA. John stated the foundation of establishing fees is included in the ordinance. It sets the framework. Chip stated his concern is public involvement within a

streamlined process. Commissioner Driscoll stated it is a baseline from the Commissioners and then people can come forward for continuity. Commissioner Grandstaff stated it is the framework for other districts to come forward to establish impact fees. Commissioner Rokosch stated it was the recommendation of legal counsel. It makes specific reference to the mandates by statute. Commissioner Chilcott suggested adding another section with the skeletal process stated for how many public hearings are required. Commissioner Grandstaff stated the conversation transpired when Commissioner Chilcott was not present. It was determined the process didn't need to be included in the ordinance. Chip stated if the purpose is to make it simple, then he suggested including the process for the public to clearly understand. Commissioner Grandstaff stated this conversation has transpired several times and she does not see why it has to be discussed again. She asked if the Board should make the ordinances longer by a few pages for clarity. Commissioner Rokosch suggested making the changes for the first reading within Civil Counsel Karen Mahar's email and then have Commissioner Chilcott draft the suggestions made today. Glenda suggested not having a first reading today because of the changes. The Board concurred with Glenda.

Commissioner Rokosch made a motion to continue this meeting/reading until Monday November 17th at 10 a.m. Commissioner Chilcott seconded the motion and all voted 'aye'.

► The Board met for discussion and decision on Board hours and mileage allowance. Present was Administrative Assistant Glenda Wiles. Commissioner Driscoll gave an overview of the issue discussing daily attendance by the Commissioners. She stated she is looking for consistency with the hours from the Board. Commissioner Chilcott stated State law is clear in regard to the attendance requirements for Commissioners, which he believes is one day a month. He stated accountability is the real issue here. Commissioner Rokosch stated if there is inefficiency in the work output by the Commissioners and their staff then it needs to be addressed. However, he works a lot from home and meets with people outside of the office and therefore he is not at the county offices every day. He stated he is open to suggestions for office hours. Further discussion followed regarding office hours of the Commissioners. It was the Board's consensus to continue with the daily meetings, leaving attendance by the Commissioners up to the Commissioners themselves and to attempt to leave Fridays as an open 'office management' day.

► The Board met with Clerk & Recorder Regina Plettenberg and Human Resource Director Robert Jenni to determine election pay for personnel. Robert gave a brief overview of the personnel policy. Regina stated the issue is with regular staff not outside personnel. She stated Election Day for her staff is not a choice for holiday. She reviewed the budgeted amount with the Board. **Commissioner Rokosch made a motion to pay the Election staff as budgeted. Commissioner Chilcott seconded the motion and all voted 'aye'.**

► Commissioner Driscoll attended BVLAC Mental Health meeting in the afternoon.

► The Board met to discuss legal priorities with the County Attorney's Office. Present were County Attorney George Corn, Civil Counsel Karen Mahar, Deputy Attorney Dan Browder, Interim Planning Director John Lavey and Commissioner-Elect J.R. Iman.

George discussed civil litigation expenses with the Board. He stated the deposition of one case costs \$650.00. He requested Board direction. Commissioner Rokosch stated he recalled a line item for civil litigation. Further discussion followed regarding certain cases occurring cost. Karen offered to issue a memo with a ball park figure. The Board agreed.

George then discussed the status of priority projects for civil counsel. He reviewed the research and memos on various election-related issues; civil lawsuits; the rabies mass immunization clinic; and the effect of the repeal of the Growth Policy on the zoning process.

George discussed MACo insurance coverage for litigation with the Board. He requested the Board contact MACo for a summary of coverage due to the changes for this fiscal year. Commissioner Chilcott agreed to contact MACo. He stated they typically send a memo whenever deductibles are raised or changes made in coverage. Karen suggested utilizing Human Resource Director Robert Jenni for his experience with evaluating insurance policies. She stated they are also starting to review how department records are kept and maintained.

Karen requested any remaining questions from the Board regarding zoning with the repeal of the Growth Policy. George added this Thursday's meeting will bring many of the questions to the surface for discussion.

Karen touched base with the Open Lands Board and stated there is one application for the program. She also discussed road development options with the Board.

Commissioner Rokosch discussed regulatory leg work and the shift of resources. Discussion followed regarding a compliance officer. Karen requested moving Weed regulations up on the priority list. The Board concurred since they have been waiting awhile.

► The Board met to discuss roadside safety issues with Road & Bridge Supervisor David Ohnstad. Present was Commissioner-Elect J.R. Iman.

David stated a retiring utility worker has donated a utility truck to the Road Department. He discussed a grant on a specific project identified through the inventory process. He stated the Treasure State Endowment Program should be for the replacement of large culverts in the Summer of 2009. There is a matching requirement for the approach work. David reviewed the possibility of two grants with the Board.

David then discussed compiled data leading to roadside trees and fatalities. He reviewed the concept of a clear zone and recoverable slopes with a four to one ratio. He then presented the Board with a video regarding roadside safety.

After the video, David discussed the significance of the trees along roadsides for safety and the issue of removal.